

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
KIKAWA et al. )  
Application Number: To be Assigned )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: LASER DIODE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD )  
THEREOF )  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. NITT.0186 )

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicant has amended the claims in order to eliminate the multiple dependent claims in accordance with standard U.S. practice. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: